

In the Specification

On page 10, please replace the second paragraph with the following:

FIG. 6 is a nucleotide sequence (SEQ ID No. 1) showing the DNA sequence of a region of the *E. coli* genome ~~containing the sequence of the *dep* gene~~. This region of the *E. coli* genome is available at Accession No. AE000261 U00096. The sequence shown is that of nucleotides 4381-8280. The *dep ydhC* gene is encoded by nucleotides 4627-5838. The *dep ydhC* sequence is shown in brackets.

On page 10, please replace the third paragraph with the following:

FIG. 7 is a nucleotide sequence (SEQ ID No. 2) showing the isolated DNA sequence of the *dep ydhC* gene. ~~The plasmid pSP007 was confirmed to contain the *dep* gene by obtaining DNA sequence data from one end of the 1.7 kb insert. Sequence data obtained in this manner matched the first.~~

Please replace the paragraph bridging pages 11 and 12 with the following:

To determine which gene is responsible for conferring resistance to DHCP, several deletion constructs were prepared as shown in Fig. 3. Disruption of *purR*, *ydhB* and both *purR* and *ydhB* had no effect on the resistance to DHCP (constructs pSP002, pSP003 and pSP006, respectively). However, disruption of ORF389 with *purR* and *ydhB* (pSP004) as well as disruption of ORF389 alone (pSP005) resulted in loss of DHCP resistance. We thus cloned ORF389 separately in pUC19 (pSP007), transformed the resultant plasmid in JM83 and checked sensitivity to DHCP. This plasmid conferred resistance to DHCP. These results clearly demonstrate that ORF389 is responsible for

resistance to DHCP when cloned in a multicopy plasmid and further work was carried out using the plasmid pSP007. The ORF389 was named as *dep* - DHCP efflux protein (see below). The plasmid pSP007 was confirmed to contain the *dep* gene by obtaining DNA sequence data from one end of the 1.7 kb insert. Sequence data obtained in this manner matched the first. Plasmid pSP007 was deposited with the American Type Culture Collection, 10801 University Boulevard, Manassas, Virginia 20110-2209, on September 5, 2001 and assigned Accession No. PTA-3682.